(b) Does not arise.

(c) For increasing the production of jute/mesta in the country, a Centrally sponsored scheme i.e., Intensive Jute Development Programme has been implemented since 1972-73 in the major growing States. Under the scheme, besides, technical guidance through qualified and trained staff, incentives were provided to the farmers by way of subsidy on certified seeds, weedicides|pesticides, seed drills and wheel hoes and essential inputs required for laying out of demonstrations, and minikits etc. Assistance was also provided for construction of individual retting tanks in the deficient areas.

**Financial Assistance to Fishermen**

3256. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state·

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide subsidies|assistance and also loans to fishermen;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the number of fishermen benefited by it in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Government have given any special instructions to nationalised|commercial banks, keeping in view of the recent floods in Andhra Pradesh to give loans and to assist fishermen;

(d) if so, what are the details of the instructions; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Agriculture operate five schmes providing subsidies/assistance to fishermen through concerned State Governments:

(i) Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active Fishermen.

Under this scheme 50 per cent of the annual premium of Rs. 9|- per beneficiary is subsidised by the Central Government and the remaining 50 per cent will be borne by the concerned State Government either fully or partially in conjunction with fishermen cooperative society. In the case of Union Territories 100 per cent of the premium will be subsidised by the Central Government. Government of Andhra Pradesh have not opted for this scheme.

(ii) Introduction of Improved Beach Landing Craft.

Under this scheme 202 Beach Landing craft have been sanctioned for introduction in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala and Gujarat. Out of 202 craft, 62 craft will be introduced in Andhra Pradesh with 50 per cent subsidy by the Central Government, 45 per cent loan by National Cooperative Development Corporation and 5 per cent to be borne by the allottee fishermen coperative society. About 620 active fishermen in Andhra Pradesh will be benefited by this scheme.

(iii) National Welfare Fund for Fishermen.

This scheme provides housing, drinking water, community hall|workshed, Credit societies etc. to fishermen in 62 villages all over the country. The cost of these facilities will be equally shared between Central Government and concerned State Government. Fishermen of 3 fishing villages in Andhra Pradesh will be benefited by the scheme.

(iv) Mechanisation of Traditional Craft.

This scheme provides motorisation of 5000 traditional craft in the country. In Andhra Pradesh 1200 traditional craft will be motorised with 50 per cent subsidy equally by Centre and State Government and the remaining amount is tied up with bank loan. About 3000 fisherfolk in Andhra Pradesh will be benefited by this scheme.

(v) Fish Farmers Development Agency.

Under this scheme there is provision for subsidy of 25 per cent (of Rs. 10,000 per hectare) for fish pond improvement and 25 per cent (of Rs. 2000 per hectare) for input to all dategories of fish farmers except Scheduled Tribe fish farmers who are given 50 per cent subsidy. In Andhra Pradesh 1580 fish farmers are benefitted by the scheme.

Besides, National Cooperative Development Corporation is providing financial assistance by way of loan and subsidy for development of fisheries sector for the benefit of fishermen through State Governments. The number of fishermen benefited by the scheme in Andhra Pradesh is not available.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India had issued instructions to banks in regard to relief and rehabilitation assistance to persons affected by natural calamities, such as flood, drought and cyclone. The instructions provide for reliefs such as conversion and rescheduling of existing loan, condonation or waiver of shortfall in margin, relaxation in security criteria etc. These reliefs would also be available to fishermen who had suffered in recent floods in Andhra Pradesh.

(e) Does not arise.

**Allotment of Houses and utilization of Foodgrains under IRDP etc.**

3257. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of houses alongwith other sites distributed to weaker sections under IRDP and NREP Statewise during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) the details of the utilisation of food-grains by different States, Statewise during the above period under NREP|IRDP;

(c) whether it is a fact that utilisation of food-grains by the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been increased considerably during the above period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and foodgrains allotted under NREP for the year 1986-87 to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) No house sites are distributed to weaker sections under Integrated Rural Development Programme or National Rural Employment Programme. However, houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers are constructed under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), Statement-I indicating the houses constructed under NREP during the last three years and the number of houses approved for construction during 1985-86 and 1986-87 under RLEGP (Indira Awass Yojana) is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) to (d) Foodgrains are utilised under NREP and RLEGP and not under IRDP.

Statement-II indicating the details of foodgrains utilised during the last three years iunder NREP|RLEGP in different States including Andhra Pradesh is enclosed. (*See* below).

There was decline in foodgrains utilisation in case of Andhra Pradesh from 1981-82 to 1984-85. The position, however, improved from 1985-86, as per reports received from the State Government, when the addictive foodgrains were supplied to State free of cost.

A total quantity of 72,780 M.Ts. of foodgrains have been allocated to the State under NREP and 47,780 M.Ts. under RLEGP during the year 1986-87.